



# WASHOE COUNTY

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Finance JS  
DA —  
Risk Mgt. —  
HR —  
Other —

## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 9, 2014

**DATE:** November 19, 2014  
**TO:** Board of County Commissioners  
**FROM:** Gabrielle Enfield, County Grants Administrator  
[genfield@washoecounty.us](mailto:genfield@washoecounty.us), 775-328-2009  
**THROUGH:** Al Rogers, Management Services Director

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve the submission of the following grants to the State of Nevada Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for funding consideration: Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program, in the amount of \$168,480 [cash match \$79,009 Indigent Funds, and in-kind match \$6,999]; Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project, in the amount of \$212,500 [in-kind match \$27,000]; Priority ranking for the applications recommended as follows: Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program priority one, and the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project as priority two; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the documents concerning same. (Commission District 5)

### SUMMARY

The Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program and the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project are eligible grant proposals seeking CDBG funding to provide a benefit to the residents of Washoe County. A summary of the grant projects are provided below. Prior to submission to the State the Washoe County Commission must approve submission of the Washoe County proposals.

County Priority/Goal supported by this item:

- Safe, secure and healthy communities

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 23, 2014, the Board of County Commissioners conducted a public hearing and invited the public to provide ideas, comments and suggestions concerning potential Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) projects.

### BACKGROUND

Washoe County is eligible to receive CDBG funds through the State of Nevada. The goal of the CDBG Program is to develop viable communities by providing decent housing, a

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suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities for persons of low to moderate income. The State of Nevada utilizes an annual competitive process for the allocation of limited CDBG funds.

In order to solicit public participation and input from the community regarding Washoe County's grant submissions staff conducted a CDBG Citizen Participation meeting on September 8, 2014, and the Board of County Commissioners conducted a Public Hearing on September 23, 2014 and. These public meetings were noticed in the Reno Gazette Journal on August 25, 2014. The public was invited to participate by providing ideas, comments and suggestions concerning potential projects; other items discussed include the grant application and selection process, past grant performance and status of existing CDBG grants. Notice of the meeting and application process was also provided to county departments and the General Improvement Districts in unincorporated Washoe County. A presentations was also provided to the Sun Valley General Improvement District and the Gerlach General Improvement District boards.

The State CDBG Program allows each eligible city and county to submit two Standard applications, additionally, each eligible city and county may submit Set-Aside Applications as approved by the CDBG Forum.

The selection process to determine the county's applications began with notice of the CDBG Citizen Participation meeting, and technical assistance to all interested parties, provided by the county's CDBG representative. Proposals are submitted to the county, and applications evaluated by the Washoe County CDBG Advisory Committee. This committee is comprised of a representative from the Finance Department—Lori Cooke, a representative from the Community Services Department—Eric Young, and a community representative –Sarah Chevilicek. The members evaluated and scored each application on the following criteria: Need for the Project; Project Description/Design; Project Benefit and Project Readiness.

This year the following three Standard grant applications were received and submitted for consideration:

1. Youth Matter Now: Leadership Sun Valley  
Submitted by Community Services Agency
2. Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program;  
Submitted by Washoe County Department of Senior Services
3. Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project.  
Submitted by Washoe County Community Services Department

The Washoe County CDBG Advisory Committee recommends to the Board of County Commissioners that the Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program; and the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement project applications be submitted to the State CDBG program for funding consideration.

The State CDBG Program also requires that the applications be ranked by priority. The that Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program was recommended as priority number one, and the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project as priority number two.

A synopsis of the project and the amount of CDBG funds requested follows:

**Standard Applications:**

**Youth Matter Now: Leadership Sun Valley** **\$196,959**

This project is a teen leadership project for at risk youth living in Sun Valley and surrounding rural Washoe County. Over the project period the youth will participate in Life Skills sessions after school. The second portion of the program involves a service learning project where the teens develop and implement a community project to improve their community while learning and engaging in leadership activities. The project proposes to serve 20 low and moderate income youth ages of 14-18, and 30 adults.

**Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program** **\$168,480**

The Senior Ambassador Program is a volunteer program focused on services to homebound and vulnerable seniors living in unincorporated Washoe County. The volunteer Ambassadors will significantly impact the quality and quantity of services provided to our rural seniors.

These include:

- Delivering hot meals to home bound seniors;
- Providing regular one-on-one personal interaction with home bound seniors;
- Leading activities at our rural Senior Centers; and
- Acting as greeters at our rural Senior Centers.

**Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project** **\$212,500**

This project is located on Sun Valley Boulevard at the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue intersection. The project site provides improved access to the Sun Valley Pool and the Sun Valley Neighborhood Center (and Senior Center). The project will install median curb to create a refuge area in the middle of the road for pedestrians. Curb, gutter, sidewalk and handicap ramps will also be installed at the four corners of the intersection to give pedestrians a safe place to stand. A rectangular rapid flashing beacon would also be installed to alert motorists of the pedestrian crossing the street.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The County match for the Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program grant includes a portion of the staff costs for the Volunteer Coordinator, and a portion of an additional food delivery vehicle, as well as a portion of the volunteer support costs such as mileage, training materials, meal delivery bags, etc. Indigent funds are the planned source of funding for these matching costs. The in-kind costs for this program include staff time for the Social Worker Supervisor that will supervise the Volunteer Coordinator, and for the County Grants Administrator.

The County match for the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project grant includes staff salary costs for the County Grants Administrator, the Fiscal Compliance Officer and Engineering staff for design, construction management, fiscal and grant administration in the amount of \$27,000.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Recommendation to approve the submission of the following grants to the State of Nevada Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for funding consideration: the Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program, in the amount of \$168,480 [cash match \$79,009 Indigent Funds, and in-kind match \$6,999]; Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project, in the amount of \$212,500 [in-kind match \$27,000]; Priority ranking for the applications recommended as follows: Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program priority one, and the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project as priority two; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the documents concerning same.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board accept staff's recommendation a possible motion would be: *"move to approve the submission of the following grants to the State of Nevada Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for funding consideration: the Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program, in the amount of \$168,480 [cash match \$79,009 Indigent Funds, and in-kind match \$6,999]; Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project, in the amount of \$212,500 [in-kind match \$27,000]; Priority ranking for the applications recommended as follows: Rural Washoe Senior Ambassador Program priority one, and the Sixth Avenue Crossing Improvement Project as priority two; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the documents concerning same."*